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Agenda items 12 (d), (e) and (j)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN TAX MATTERS

TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Report of the Economic Committee

A. International cooperation in tax matters

1. The Economic Committee considered the question of international cooperation in tax matters (agenda item 12 (d)) at its 8th, 9th and 16th meetings, on 20 and 28 July 1992. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (E/1992/8).

2. At the 8th and 9th meetings, on 20 July, the Committee held a general discussion on the questions of international cooperation in tax matters (agenda item 12 (d)), transnational corporations (agenda item 12 (e)), and consumer protection (agenda item 12 (j)).

3. At the 8th meeting, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Director of the Transnational Corporations and Management Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development.

4. At the 9th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), the Philippines, Poland, Japan, the

Russian Federation , Australia, Romania, Bangladesh, Morocco, Colombia, China and Chile and the observer for Denmark (on behalf of the Nordic countries). The representative of the International Labour Organisation made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the International Organization of Consumers Unions, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I.

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

5. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (E/1992/8) (see para. 6 below, draft decision).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

6. The Economic Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters. 1/

B. Transnational corporations

7. The Economic Committee considered the question of transnational corporations (agenda item 12 (e)) at its 8th, 9th and 16th meetings, on 20 and 28 July 1992. It had before it the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its eighteenth session (E/1992/26 and Add.1). 2/

8. At the 8th and 9th meetings, on 20 July, the Committee held a general discussion (see paras. 2-4 above and 20 below).

1/ E/1992/8.

2/ To be issued as Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 19 (E/1992/ 26).

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on the second part of its eighteenth session

9. Chapter I of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on the second part of its eighteenth session contained three draft resolutions and one draft decision recommended for adoption by the Council.

10. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Selim Yenel (Turkey), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the recommendations contained in the report.

Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa

11. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution I entitled "Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa" (see para. 16 below, draft resolution I).

Activities of the former United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and of its successor, the Transnational Corporations and Management Division

12. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution II entitled "Activities of the former United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and of its successor, the Transnational Corporations and Management Division" (see para. 16 below, draft resolution II).

Privatization and foreign investment in the context of economic restructuring

13. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution III entitled "Privatization and foreign investment in the context of economic restructuring" (see para. 16 below, draft resolution III).

Provisional agenda and documentation for the nineteenth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations

14. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted the draft decision entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the nineteenth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations" (see para. 17 below, draft decision I).

Report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its eighteenth session

15. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its eighteenth session (E/1992/26 and Add.1) (see para. 17 below, draft decision II).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

16. The Economic Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS I TO III, SEE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS ON THE SECOND PART OF ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION (E/1992/26/Add.1)]

17. The Economic Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT DECISION I, SEE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS ON THE SECOND PART OF ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION (E/1992/26/Add.1)]

DRAFT DECISION II

Report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its eighteenth session

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its eighteenth session. 2/

C. Consumer protection

18. The Economic Committee considered the question of consumer protection (agenda item 12 (j)) at its 8th, 9th and 16th meetings, on 20 and 28 July 1992. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection (E/1992/48).

19. At the 8th and 9th meetings, on 20 July, the Committee held a general discussion (see paras. 2-4 above).

20. At the 9th meeting, on 20 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Director of the Development Policy and Analysis Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development.

Report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection

21. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection (E/1992/48) (see para. 22 below).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

22. The Economic Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION

Report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection

The Economic and Social Council takes notes of the report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection. 3/

3/ E/1992/48.